

NEWS RELEASE

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Assistant Executive Director Role Lorraine Shearon Promoted at THDA

NASHVILLE (**April 4, 2006**) – Lorraine Shearon, who has been at Tennessee Housing Development Agency since 1995, has been promoted to Assistant Executive Director for Policy Development and Research, by Ted R. Fellman, executive director.

"When I took over as leader of THDA last fall, I made a commitment that THDA would be the primary entity that provided leadership in the state on affordable housing issues," said Fellman. "I want our Agency's leadership to be creative in developing new programs and financing alternatives, and in helping our partners find and use the resources they need to improve housing for low- and moderate-income Tennesseans. With Lorrie in this position, she will be able to devote her energy to helping us carry out that commitment."

Shearon joined the Agency as Director of Research, Planning, and Technical Services. In this position, she has been responsible for the state's five-year Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development, overseeing research and analysis on all the agency's programs, and overseeing technical assistance contracts with the state's development districts. Among other things, she has served as the agency's voting representative on the Statewide Mental Health Policy and Planning Council, on the multi-state Appalachian Housing Summit planning team, and the City of Clarksville's Affordable Housing Task Force.

"I am excited about this new role," said Shearon. "THDA has so many resources, both our financial resources and also all of the expertise on our staff, to help lead the state in improving the housing of Tennesseans. My years of experience as Director of Research and Planning, which gave me knowledge of the breadth of activities THDA is involved in, should serve me well in undertaking these new responsibilities."

Shearon has a bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia and a Master's degree from George Washington University. She has a total of over 17 years of state service.

She and her husband, Kevin, live in Clarksville with their two daughters.

More information about THDA is available on-line at www.tennessee.gov/thda